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## The Recap

Whew, what a year this month has been! The political junkies among us have been gobbling up the recent national headlines. Meanwhile, most of the electorate has yet to tune in. Our team of political junkies here at NCLM is dialed in year-round, of course. And we're eager to bring you the latest rundown since the NC General Assembly adjourned in July, as we switch to our monthly Bulletin publication cycle. Our top item to share with you is our End of Session Bulletin, a report on the major pieces of legislation affecting cities that were proposed and debated in this year's legislative session. You'll find this report, which gives you summary descriptions of all these bills, linked in the article below.

This year, the report is thinner than usual. That's because the NC General Assembly is poised to turn over a new leaf in leadership, as House Speaker Tim Moore pursues election to the U.S. House of Representatives this fall. Therefore, even though they met for over two months, state legislators left the Short Session without reaching agreement on the state budget. They also passed far less bills than typical. With reduced legislative activity, wish-list items for cities and most other interest groups were put on hold.

Yet on their way out, legislators left the door open for future lawmaking with monthly "mini" sessions scheduled throughout the rest of the year. In particular, the post-election November session could see action and a new budget for the remainder of the fiscal year. As of right now, state House leadership appears more open to such lawmaking than their counterparts in the Senate. Much is sure to shift before November. Watch this space for monthly updates from our team!

Erin Wynia

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Erin L. Wynia'.

Director of Government Affairs

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## End of Session Bulletin

As mentioned above, [here is our End of Session Bulletin](#). This document provides a handy reference guide to all 2024 legislation considered by the General Assembly

affecting cities and towns. It includes a summary of those bills, a contact list of Government Affairs staff, and a quick recap and assessment of the legislative session from NCLM's Board of Directors officers. Based on legislative developments, we may be providing an update to this document later in the year, as the General Assembly has set a handful of dates to reconvene for brief meetings.

## EOS BULLETIN

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# House Returns, Votes to Override Vetoes

Members of the North Carolina House returned briefly to Raleigh on Wednesday, voting to override three bills vetoed by Gov. Roy Cooper. [HB 155 Titles for Off-Road Vehicles/Low Speed Vehicles Inspection](#), [HB 556 Tenancy in Common/E-Notary/Small Claims Changes](#), and [HB 690 No Central Bank Digital Currency Payments to State](#) will have little direct effect on municipal governments, and the House took no action outside of the veto override votes. The Senate, meanwhile, did not return for legislative business this week, meaning those bills have not yet become law despite the successful override votes in the House.

With the General Assembly set to reconvene again Sept. 9 and again in November, there is still a strong possibility the gubernatorial vetoes will be overridden. Two other bills vetoed by Governor Cooper – including [SB 166 2024 Building Code Regulatory Code Regulatory Reform](#), of strong interest to cities and towns – are also likely to be considered in override votes at those later dates. As SB 166 and [SB 445 Recording of Court-Filed Documents](#) originated in the Senate, that chamber will have to hold the initial override vote.

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## NCBEMO Annual Conference

Over the weekend, the League was with North Carolina Black Elected Municipal Officials (NCBEMO) in Chapel Hill and Durham for its annual conference. Over two days, more than 90 members spent time learning about affordable housing, legislative happenings and resiliency in changing environments.

The group learned about state voting trends from state Sen. Natalie Murdock, as well as the importance of mentorship and collaboration between local and state government from North Carolina Reps. Gloristine Brown, James Roberson and Renee Price.

NCBEMO is led by Kinston Mayor, Dontario Hardy (President), Jacksonville Council Member Brian Jackson (First Vice President), Leland Council Member Veronica Carter (Second Vice President), Winston-Salem Mayor Pro-Tem Denise Adams (Treasurer), Chadbourn Council Member Rashad Roberts (Parliamentarian), Spring Lake Council Member Sona Cooper (Secretary), and Zebulon Mayor Pro-Tem Jessica Harrison (Assistant Secretary).

Durham Mayor Leonardo Williams, Carrboro Mayor Barbara Foushee, and Chapel-Hill Councilwoman Paris Miller-Foushee welcomed members as representatives of the host area.

Check out photos from the first day of the conference below!

PHOTOS HERE

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## OSHA Firefighting Rules

NCLM has previously reported on newly proposed Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) rule that would modify workplace protection standards for emergency responders, and the ability to submit public comment to the Federal Register regarding those rules. The comment period closed last month, but you can read the full comments from the National League of Cities and National Association of Counties [here](#).

The proposed new rule would increase protections for emergency responders and provide standard workplace protections for those who respond to emergencies as a part of their regular job duties, which would include those providing emergency medical services and technical search and rescue. Several groups have expressed concern that requirements under the proposal may increase the administrative burden on fire departments; necessitate equipment and facility upgrades; and increase training and certification requirements, putting additional burdens on local taxpayers. Volunteer firefighting organizations have also expressed concerns due to the additional cost burdens, while some members of Congress also have publicly pushed back on the proposed rule.

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